

2003 NCSA New Application Procedures

This year's NCSA application procedures are different and **your help is needed to make this a success.** We are testing our systems at CAP National Headquarters to see if we can better use the Internet to make applying for these activities easier and quicker.

We are still using the CAP Form 31, but we are asking those of you who have access to the Internet go to our Cadet Programs site at www.capnhq.gov/nhq/cp/cps/ncsa03/index.html (or go to CAP's home page at www.capnhq.gov and follow the links to Cadet Programs). From there, follow the links to the on-line Form 31. As you follow the instructions for entering your requested activities, you will also get to check (and correct, if necessary) your address and contact information that national has on file. This is part of the system we want to check this year.

When you have completed the application, you will be asked to print it out and get it signed by you parent or guardian (for cadets under 18) and your squadron commander. **The postmark deadline is still Dec. 31, 2002, but you need to mail it NHQ, not your wing.** Only one copy is needed at NHQ. Use the address listed below and in the on-line instructions. We at NHQ will forward all applications received to your wing commander in one package.

We ask that as many of you as possible complete the Form 31 on-line. It still has to be printed out, signed and mailed in, but the more of you who can do that, the better the test will be of our system. If this test goes well, there will be more improvements for the 2004 NCSA. If you do not have Internet access, just fill out a paper copy of the Form 31, get it signed by your parent/guardian (for cadets under 18) and your squadron commander. Then mail it (only one copy) to NHQ with a postmark of Dec. 31, 2002, or earlier to: HQ CAP/CP, 105 South Hansell St., Maxwell AFB, AL 36112-6332, Attention: NCSA.

Also, after you get the application signed, make a copy for your records. If your application gets lost (read below because you will be able to check if your application made it to NHQ), it will be easier to correct the problem if you have a signed copy of your original application.

For personnel applying for "staff" positions, please mark the Form 31 appropriately, but note acceptance to the activity is not necessarily acceptance to a staff position. The activity director will review staff applications and directly contact those selected.

For cadets applying for more than one NCSA on a paper Form 31 (not from the Internet), please clearly indicate your desired preference, in order, on the application. Otherwise, NHQ will assign the preference order at random.

Late applications (those received from cadets postmarked after Dec. 31) will be accepted at any time. NHQ will coordinate to get wing certification and selection, and will work with the appropriate activity director to see if slots are available. The only restriction is the original cadets slotted as primaries and alternates (those who applied on time) have had opportunity to respond with payment and confirmation of attendance for those activities where more cadets applied than there are slots.

For all, please check our Cadet Programs NCSA Web site for additional information about many of next summer's activities. This site will also be the best source for updated or changed details.

Cadet Application Procedures

All cadets applying to any activity must have encampment credit prior to attending any NCSA. If NHQ does not have a record of encampment completion prior to the date of the activity, then you will have to show the activity director your encampment completion certificate.

Note: NHQ does not process applications for Hawk Mountain SAR School, Space Camp, Aviation Challenge or EAA Air Academy. Application guidelines for these programs can be found on Page 18.

Here are the procedures and timelines for applications to NCSA:

✓ Cadets' should complete and send their Form 31 to NHQ with a postmark no later than Dec 31, 2002, at this address: HQ CAP/CP, 105 South Hansell St., Maxwell AFB, AL 36112-6332, Attention: NCSA.

✓ NHQ will post a list of the applications received (by CAPID) to the Cadet Programs NCSA Web site. Allow two weeks from mailing for your application to be received and posted. All applications received will be listed by Jan. 10, 2003. If your application does not appear by the end of two weeks (or Jan. 10), contact CAP/CPS by e-mail at cps@capnhq.gov or at (334) 953-6443.

✓ NHQ will package the applications by wing and forward them to the wing commanders. The wing commanders will provide the wing certification of the Form 31 for those cadets they select to attend and will return those applications to NHQ. The returned applications will be, at the wing commander's option, rank-ordered by the wing or put in a computer-generated random order for NHQ slotting.

✓ NHQ will slot as many of the selected cadets as possible to the activities. Being "selected" does not guarantee a cadet will be "slotted," as the number of available slots will probably be less than the number selected.

✓ Notification of the slotting results will be sent out via e-mail on Feb. 28, 2003. Additionally, the list will be posted on the Cadet Programs Web site. Those cadets without an e-mail address will receive notification by mail. The slotting lists will show "primaries," those who have a definite slot (if payment is received), and "alternates," those who may get an opportunity to attend if "primaries" drop out.

✓ Cadets slotted as "primary" attendees will have until March 31, 2003, to submit their payments in full to NHQ for all activities except the NESAs. (The academy director coordinates all fees for NESAs and will provide guidance for payment in the welcome letter.) Primary cadets whose payment has not been received by March 31, 2003, will become alternates, and their primary slots will be offered to alternates.

✓ Payment procedures will be published in the slotting notification and on the NCSA Web site. Online payment by either check or credit card may be possible.

Senior Member Applications

Most of our special activities allow senior members to apply as escorts and a few allow for full senior member participation. Senior members applying must follow the same procedures as the cadets, although seniors may substitute a Form 17 for the Form 31. However, we request you also help us test our system by using the online procedures listed for the cadets. There are no deadlines for senior member applications to assist as staff members, but please do so as early as possible.

Pararescue Orientation Course

Kirtland AFB, N.M., Dates TBD/Fee: \$125

The Air Force pararescueman's creed is, "So that others may live." For generations, they have gone where few others dare to rescue the fallen behind enemy lines. Join some of the elite this summer, at the Pararescue Orientation Course (PJOC).

The PJOC is a one-week course for cadets age 15 and older, and is planned and conducted by Air Force active duty, members of the Air Force Reserve and 342nd Training Squadron (TRS), and Air Force Pararescue Jumpers School. The course introduces cadets to techniques used by Air Force pararescuemen while actively participating in various facets of Air Force pararescue training. Curriculum includes land navigation, survival techniques, rock climbing, rappelling and other skills used in rescue operations.

You must be in good to above-average physical condition for this program. A physical fitness test will be administered at the start of the activity, and the instructor will send home any cadet who cannot meet the physical standards. Cadets will be doing a lot of calisthenics and running while at PJOC.

Note: Cadets will not parachute at this activity.

Advanced Pararescue Orientation Course

Kirtland AFB, N.M., Dates TBD/Fee: \$250

Remember the excitement and challenge of PJOC? Remember the pride you felt when you graduated? Experience that and more at Advanced Pararescue Orientation Course (APJOC).

APJOC allows cadets to further develop skills they learned at basic PJOC. Two tracks are offered: one in mountaineering and the other in navigation. In the mountaineering track, cadets continue to develop their rock-climbing skills and experience vertical rescue techniques. In the navigation track, cadets learn additional survival techniques and spend a week hiking in the New Mexico wilderness with a climb up to Rosilla Peak at 10,637 feet. In both tracks, cadets will be introduced to pararescue medical training. (Cadets must possess a current first aid and CPR card prior to attending.)

If you are a graduate of PJOC, in excellent physical condition and ready to step up to the challenge, get your application in today. Physical fitness requirements are more stringent than the PJOC. Cadets must pass a rigorous test upon arrival that will include push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups, flutter kicks, eight-count body builders and a 1.5-mile run. The activity director will provide further details for those selected to attend.

Advanced Technology

Cadet National Academy

Waco, Texas, July 12-19 • Dowling College, N.Y., Dates TBD
Fee for both: \$350

Do you enjoy being on the leading edge of today's technology? Do you have the basic computer skills mastered and want to use your knowledge to help us perform one of our primary missions? Are you also interested in space and would like to be able to track satellites, the space shuttle, and the International Space Station in orbit from your squadron's computer? Then join us for the Civil Air Patrol's first Advanced Technology Cadet Activity.

You will see how CAP provides some of the first photographs that are available of disaster sites. Learn about airborne photography while flying and using our special camera that captures single frame video. Become skilled at down linking those images from aircraft to computer and processing usable "pictures" that are made available over the internet to our disaster response leadership. Part two of the course is the CAP Satellite Tool Kit program. You will learn to use state-of-the-art space technology to learn about satellite missions, and many other space operations topics. You will also learn to use the STK Search Tool for search and rescue, to analyze flight profiles and pre-fly missions from your computer. You may preview those lessons at "http://www.cap-stk.com/".

Please note, competency with the Microsoft Windows operating system and programs is a requirement.

Aerospace Education Academy

Oshkosh, Wisc., June 15-22/Fee: \$260

Interested in learning more about aviation and space? Come to the first annual Aerospace Education Academy. Students between the ages of 14-18 will spend time in a core curriculum consisting of aviation, aviation history, space, rockets and weather. Afternoons will be spent on a challenge course, a treasure hunt using a compass and GPS, flying remote planes, working in sport air workshops, flying in a simulator, and much more.

Before the week is over, cadets will have the opportunity to develop flight plans, fly in a CAP airplane, ride in a tethered hot-air balloon, plus launch rockets. Additionally, cadets will visit a planetarium and the EAA Flight Museum.

National Flight Academy - Powered Track

Smyrna, Tenn., June 16-30 • Oklahoma, June 20-29
Oshkosh, Wisc., June 20-30 • Fort Pickett, Va., July 12-19
Camp Ashland, Neb., July 14-27
Fee for all: \$850

Interested in becoming an aviator? Ready to take the first step? Get into the pilot's seat with the National Flight Academy.

This course — for students 16 and older — is based on the U.S. Air Force's Flight Screening Program and offers flight time in a Cessna 172. With a certified flight instructor by your side, spend 10 hours behind the yoke learning the basics of flying a powered aircraft. Take what you have learned in the 25 hours of ground instruction and put it to use during your additional 10 flight hours as an observer.

Be prepared to be further immersed in aviation as you visit aviation museums, aircraft reconstruction hangars, and air traffic control towers (depending on which location you attend). Many NFA graduates continue their flight training for their Federal Aviation Administration private pilot license after this course.

National Flight Academy Glider Track

California (tentative) • Coles County Airport, Ill., June 21-29
Berry College, Ga., July 9-20
Fee for all: \$850

Interested in flying like an eagle? Well then, soar above your peers at the National Flight Academy — Glider Track!

Each course gives selected students — 14 and older — the opportunity to get in the cockpit of a sailplane. With your certified flight instructor, learn the basics of skillfully maneuvering a non-powered aircraft. Enjoy the quiet wonder of "thermalling" as you develop skills you can take into powered flight training. This is a unique flight experience for cadets.

For those who have previously completed this course or received equivalent training elsewhere, an advanced glider track is also available at most locations.

Air Education and Training Command

Familiarization Course

Laughlin AFB, Texas, June 22-28/Fee: \$125
Columbus AFB, Miss., July 12-19/Fee: \$125

Have you ever dreamed about becoming a military aviator? Would you like to have an edge when you go through U.S. Air Force Undergraduate Pilot Training? If either answer is yes, then the Air Education and Training Command Familiarization Course is for you.

AETCF is a one-week course designed to give cadets — age 15 and older — an introduction of how the Air Force conducts its flight training. The course provides students the opportunity to attend class, observe and learn side-by-side with real Air Force student pilots. This is an academically intense course.

This course offers behind-the-scene tours of facilities like the air traffic control tower, aircraft maintenance hangars, and parachute shop. Cadets will also receive briefings on the mission and operations of an Air Force flight training wing, academics, and physiological training. Highlights of the week may include the possibility of a ride in a T-1A Jayhawk or a chance to fly a full-motion flight simulator with an Air Force instructor pilot.

Air Force Space Command

Familiarization Course

Peterson AFB, Colo., Dates TBD • Patrick AFB, Fla., Jul 27 - Aug. 3
Fee for both: \$125

Who would miss an opportunity to spend a week immersed in Air Force space operations? Would you like the chance of having a unique experience of learning about their cutting-edge 21st Century technology?

CAP offers the Air Force Space Command Familiarization Course to cadets age 15 and older. The AFSPCFC provides an in-depth look at the Air Force Space Command while students learn about orbital mechanics, domestic and foreign launch capabilities, and the opportunity to learn about satellite operations, missile warning and ICBM facilities.

Orientation tours can include NORAD, ICBM sites, and the Air Force Academy (for those selected for Peterson AFB) or the Kennedy Space Center (for those selected for Patrick AFB).

Air Force

Weather Agency

Familiarization Course

July 14-18/Fee: \$150

Considering a career in meteorology? Planning on a science major in college? Looking for a unique training activity? Interested in tornadoes and severe storms or wishing to add to your meteorology skills?

If so, then the Air Force Weather Agency Familiarization Course is for you. This familiarization course, held at Offutt AFB, Neb., is designed to promote interest in meteorology, careers in the Air Force Weather Agency and aerospace careers that require knowledge of weather systems.

Students receive training in weather interpretation, contour mapping, severe weather analysis, storm spotting (not storm chasing), and space/weather environment. Students also tour the U.S. Strategic Command Museum.

The AFWAFC is open to cadets who have completed the Rickenbacher achievement and have attended an encampment (preferably, cadets should be a sophomore or junior in school; however, seniors or college students majoring in meteorology or other weather-related careers will not be excluded from consideration). Senior members should be working in an operational weather capacity, such as disaster preparedness or damage assessment. For those who have previously attended this activity or have had equivalent training, an advanced course is also available during these same dates.

National Military

Music Academy

Dates, location, cost TBD

According to Gen. George Washington, "Nothing is more agreeable and ornamental than good music; every officer, for the credit of his corps, should take care to provide it . . ."

The National Military Music Academy's objective is to provide leadership training to musically skilled cadets and seniors to help them introduce a music program into CAP, which will be able to provide musical services for official CAP, recruiting and community relations events. Drawing upon existing American military music traditions, the academy's goal is to preserve our national heritage by initially introducing fifes, drums and bugles into CAP squadrons in support of ceremonial occasions, such as parades, protocol functions and memorial services. Subsequently, additional types of music and musical instruments will be introduced at the wing level to project the CAP image.

In addition to academics, rehearsals performances ranging from parades to full-fledged concerts and local sight-seeing, the NMMA will attend evening performances of some of the military's finest bands and musical groups. The music academy is usually held in the Washington, D.C., area.

The NMMA is open to both cadets and seniors. Senior members who wish to serve as staff must complete an application plus submit a resume. While music experience is a definite plus for senior members, there are a number of support positions available not requiring musical skills.

The NMMA will provide field drums and bugles. Additional fees will be charged for fife, and drum sticks and pads. Also, it is possible to order one's own personal bugle or drum. Details will be provided upon request.

For more information, visit the Maryland Wing's Web site at <http://mdwg.cap.gov> or contact Lt. Col. James Steinmeier at jsteinme@erols.com.

~ SYSTEM TEST ~

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